

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

- 1.(Cancelled) An authoring system comprising: presentation data comprising one or more container objects containing one or more objects that include media data, and one or more pointer objects that reference a base object for data, creating a virtual hierarchy, wherein the presentation data is structured in a hierarchy such that container objects can be nested within container objects; a playback display that presents the media data; and means for processing the presentation data; wherein authoring is capable of being accomplished during interrelated playback of the presentation.
- 2.(Cancelled) The authoring system of claim 1, further comprising a control display.
- 3.(Cancelled) An authoring system comprising: presentation data comprising one or more container objects containing one or more objects that include media data, wherein the presentation data is structured in a hierarchy such that container objects can be nested within container objects; means for processing the presentation data and navigating through the hierarchy thereof, including the selection of a container object in response to input; a playback display that presents the media data, wherein the current playback output for the playback display is replaced by the playback output of the selected container object; and wherein authoring is capable of being accomplished during interrelated playback of the presentation.
- 4.(Cancelled) The authoring system of claim 3, wherein the presentation data objects all include data specifying whether the object is navigable.
- 5.(Cancelled) An authoring system comprising: presentation data comprising one or more

container objects containing one or more objects that include media data, wherein the presentation data is structured in a hierarchy such that container objects can be nested within container objects; a playback display that presents the media data; means for processing the presentation data; and one or more sub-display container objects, each of which, when played back by the playback display, displays the playback of its contained presentation data in a nested sub-display embedded within the display of a container object; wherein authoring is capable of being accomplished during interrelated playback of the presentation.

6.(Cancelled) The authoring system of claim 5, wherein the nesting of sub-displays within sub-displays corresponds to nesting of 'sub-display' container objects within 'sub-display' container objects.

7.(Cancelled) The authoring system of claim 5, wherein the means for processing the presentation data receives input, associated with each 'sub-display' container object, that specifies if the sub-display functionality is enabled.

8.(Cancelled) The authoring system of claim 7, wherein at least one of the 'sub-display' container objects are pointer objects, each having its own user option specified independently from its base object.

9.(Cancelled) An authoring system comprising: presentation data comprising one or more container objects containing one or more objects that include media data, wherein the presentation data is structured in a hierarchy such that container objects can be nested within container objects; means for processing the presentation data and navigating therethrough, including the selection of a container object in response to input; a playback display having an output presentation of the media data, wherein the current playback output for the playback display is replaced by the playback output of the selected container object; one or more sub-display container objects, each of which when played back by the playback display, displays the playback of its contained presentation data in a nested sub-display embedded within the display

of a container object.

10.(Cancelled) An authoring system comprising: presentation data comprising one or more container objects containing one or more objects that include media data; a playback display for presenting the media data; means for processing the presentation data including the starting of a container object in response to input; one or more sub-display container objects, each of which when played back by the playback display, displays the playback of its contained presentation data in a nested sub-display embedded within the display of a container object; wherein the current playback output for the playback display is replaced by the playback output of the started container object.

11.(Cancelled) An authoring system comprising: presentation data comprising one or more container objects containing one or more objects including media data; a playback display for playing back the presentation data by presenting media data in the playback display; one or more sub-display container objects, each of which when played back by the playback display, displays the playback of its contained presentation data in a nested sub-display embedded within the display of a container object; wherein user input is accepted to change the object position and object size of a selected object at the same time.

12.(Cancelled) The authoring system of claim 11, wherein the user input that changes the object position and the user input that changes the object size are input actions suitable for being performed by the user's left and right hands simultaneously.

13.(Cancelled) The authoring system of claim 12, wherein the object position is changed by user input from a mouse, and wherein the object size is changed by user input from two adjacent switches.

14.(Cancelled) An authoring method comprising the steps of: storing in one or more databases presentation data comprising one or more container objects containing one or more objects that

include media data, and one or more pointer objects that reference a base object for data, creating a virtual hierarchy, wherein the presentation data is structured in a hierarchy such that container objects can be nested within container objects; presenting the media data on a playback display; processing the presentation data; and authoring during interrelated playback of the presentation data.

15.(Cancelled) The authoring method as recited in claim 14, further comprising, during the step of presenting the media data on a playback display, the step of replacing the current playback output for the playback display by the playback output of the selected container object.

16.(Cancelled) The authoring method as recited in claim 14, further comprising the steps of: storing in the one or more data bases one or more sub-display container objects; and when playing back each sub-display container object, displaying the playback of its contained presentation data in a nested sub-display embedded within the display of a container object.

17.(Cancelled) An article of manufacture embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine, the program of instructions including authoring instructions for: storing in one or more databases presentation data comprising one or more container objects containing one or more objects that include media data, and one or more pointer objects that reference a base object for data, creating a virtual hierarchy, wherein the presentation data is structured in a hierarchy such that container objects can be nested within container objects; presenting the media data on a playback display; processing the presentation data; and authoring during interrelated playback of the presentation data.

18. (Withdrawn) An authoring method comprising the steps of:

storing presentation data including at least one container object containing at least two media objects containing media data, the media data including picture data;

playing back the presentation data by presenting the media data in a playback display, wherein the display position of the media data in the playback display can be specified by a user of the system; and

adding a new picture from a connected camera to the presentation data being displayed in the playback display by performing actions that include initiating a picture capture process for the connected camera and concluding the picture capture process to accept the picture, followed by further action comprising adding the accepted picture to the presentation data by specifying its display position in the playback display.

19. (Withdrawn) An authoring method comprising the steps of:

storing presentation data including at least one container object containing at least two media objects containing media data, the media data including at least one of text data and picture data;

playing back the presentation data by presenting the media data in a playback display, wherein the display color of the media data can be specified by a user of the system; and

adjusting the display color of media data being displayed in the playback display by performing four actions consisting of (1) selecting via a graphical user interface (GUI) a command for adjusting color, (2) selecting a piece of media data displayed in the playback display, (3) moving a pointing device in a two dimensional plane wherein the color hue is mapped to one axis of the plane and the color brightness is mapped to another axis of the plane and the color of the displayed media data changes in real time in response to the movement of the pointing device, and (4) accepting the new display color of the media data.

20. (Withdrawn) An authoring method as recited in claim 19, wherein the selection of the command via the GUI is performed by selecting a command icon in the GUI.

21. (Withdrawn) An authoring method as recited in claim 19, wherein the two dimensional plane has a hue axis which wraps around in a continuous fashion, whereby movement in the plane along the hue axis beyond the position corresponding to red yields a color of violet, and

movement in the plane along the hue axis beyond the position corresponding to violet yields a color of red.

22. (Withdrawn) An authoring system comprising:

presentation data including at least one container object containing at least two media objects containing media data, the media data including at least one of text data and picture data;

a playback display for playing back the presentation data by presenting the media data in the playback display;

programmed object behavior controlling the presentation of media data in the playback display, wherein the programmed object behavior involves a first media object and a second media object which may be one and the same media object; and

a graphical user interface (GUI) allowing a system user to create the programmed object behavior by performing, in any order, three actions consisting of (1) selecting in the playback display media data corresponding to the first media object, (2) selecting via the GUI a programming function corresponding to the programmed object behavior, and (3) selecting in the playback display media data corresponding to the second media object.

23. (Withdrawn) An authoring system as recited in claim 22, wherein the selection of the programming function via the GUI is performed by selecting a command icon in the GUI.

24. (Withdrawn) An authoring system as recited in claim 22, wherein the programmed object behavior specifies that user selection in the playback display of the media data corresponding to the first media object causes the media data corresponding to the second media object to be displayed in the playback display.

25. (Withdrawn) An authoring system as recited in claim 22, further comprising a timer and wherein the timer begins counting down when the media data corresponding to the first media object appears in the playback display, and wherein the programmed object behavior specifies that the expiration of the timer causes the media data corresponding to the second media object to be displayed in the playback display.

26. (Withdrawn) An authoring system as recited in claim 22, wherein the programmed object behavior specifies that user selection in the playback display of the media data corresponding to the first media object causes the media data corresponding to the first media object to be removed from the playback display and causes the media data corresponding to the second media object to be displayed in the playback display.

27. (Previously Presented) An authoring system as recited in claim 22, further comprising a timer and wherein the timer begins counting down when the media data corresponding to the first media object appears in the playback display, and wherein the programmed object behavior specifies that the expiration of the timer causes the media data corresponding to the first media object to be removed from the playback display and causes the media data corresponding to the second media object to be displayed in the playback display.

28. (Previously Presented) An authoring system comprising:

presentation data including at least one container object containing at least two media objects containing media data, the media data including at least one of text data or picture data;

hierarchical structuring of the presentation data by nesting container objects within container objects to form a hierarchical object space;

a playback display for playing back the presentation data by presenting the media data in the playback display, the playback display being associated with a master container object that contains the set of playing objects whose media data is displayed in the playback display;

a destination container object which is directly contained within the master container object, and which is associated with a nested sub-display shown within the playback display, and which contains at least two media objects which are playing and whose media data is displayed within the sub-display; and

user-initiated navigation through the hierarchical object space comprising a preemption of playback for the playing objects contained in the master container object which are not contained within the destination container object, and further comprising a transition whereby the nested sub-display is no longer displayed in the playback display and the media data previously displayed in the nested sub-display becomes displayed in the playback display overall.

29. (Previously Presented) An authoring system as recited in claim 28, wherein the user initiates navigation by using a pointing device to select in the playback display the sub-display associated with the destination container object.

30. (Previously Presented) An authoring system as recited in claim 28, wherein a system user using a pointing device can manipulate the sub-display in the playback display to adjust display settings for it which include at least one of size, position, cropping and stretch.

31. (Previously Presented) An authoring system as recited in claim 28, wherein the transition includes a zooming effect whereby the sub-display grows over time until it fills the playback display.

32. (Previously Presented) An authoring system as recited in claim 28, wherein the destination container object further contains a nested container object associated with a nested sub-display embedded within the nested sub-display of the destination container object, and wherein the nested container object contains at least two media objects which are playing and whose media data is displayed within its associated sub-display, comprising a sub-display within a sub-display.

33. (Previously Presented) An authoring system as recited in claim 28, wherein the destination container object is a container pointer object which is a container object that references a base container object for its contained objects.

34. (Previously Presented) An authoring system as recited in claim 33, wherein the container pointer object references its base container object over a network using a network address.

35. (Withdrawn) An authoring system comprising:

presentation data including at least one container object containing at least two media objects containing media data, the media data including at least one of text data or picture data;

a playback display for playing back the presentation data by presenting the media data in the playback display; and

at least one control display presenting representations of two or more media objects, wherein the at least one control display provides an indication to the system user of playback of media objects in the playback display, and wherein the indication provided by the control display of media object playback is an object-specific playback indication.

36. (Withdrawn) An authoring system as recited in claim 35, wherein media objects are represented in the control display using icons, and wherein the indication of media object playback is provided by rendering an illuminated visual field around and/or behind each icon representing a playing media object.

37. (Withdrawn) An authoring system as recited in claim 35, wherein media data is displayed in the playback display using an entrance effect consisting of a gradual increase over time in the opacity of the media data from transparent to opaque, and wherein the indication of media object playback in the control display has varying intensity levels corresponding to the gradual increase in opacity .

38. (Withdrawn) An authoring system as recited in claim 35, wherein media data is displayed in the playback display using an exit effect consisting of a gradual decrease over time in the opacity of the media data from opaque to transparent, and wherein the indication of media object playback in the control display has varying intensity levels corresponding to the gradual decrease in opacity .

39. (Withdrawn) An article of manufacture embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine, the program of instructions including instructions for:

storing presentation data including at least one container object containing at least two media objects containing media data, the media data including picture data;

playing back the presentation data by presenting the media data in a playback display, wherein the display position of the media data in the playback display can be specified by a user of the system; and

adding a new picture from a connected camera to the presentation data being displayed in the playback display by performing actions that include initiating a picture capture process for the connected camera and concluding the picture capture process to accept the picture, followed by further action comprising adding the accepted picture to the presentation data by specifying its display position in the playback display.

40. (Withdrawn) An article of manufacture embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine, the program of instructions including instructions for:

storing presentation data including at least one container object containing at least two media objects containing media data, the media data including at least one of text data and picture data;

playing back the presentation data by presenting the media data in a playback display, wherein the display color of the media data can be specified by a user of the system; and

adjusting the display color of media data being displayed in the playback display by performing four actions consisting of (1) selecting via a graphical user interface (GUI) a command for adjusting color, (2) selecting a piece of media data displayed in the playback display, (3) moving a pointing device in a two dimensional plane wherein the color hue is mapped to one axis of the plane and the color brightness is mapped to another axis of the plane and the color of the displayed media data changes in real time in response to the movement of the pointing device, and (4) accepting the new display color of the media data.